

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Duffy et al.

Title: PET BLANKET

To: Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REMARKS**

Dear Sir:

In response to a final Office Action in the parent case with a mailing date of January 22, 2004, response to which is due by April 22, 2004 without extension, and which is therefore being timely filed, kindly amend the above-identified continuation application as follows and consider the accompanying remarks.